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TAGS: PREL

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE: MEETINGS WITH HAMAS (PERU)

REF: A. SECSTATE 27174

1B. LIMA 718

11. (U) Polcouns and Poloff delivered the meetings with Hamas demarche (Ref A) to the Foreign Ministry's Under Secretary for Multilateral Affairs, Amb. Antonio Garcia Revilla, Director of Multilateral Affairs Julio Garro, and Director of UN Affairs, Miguel Barreto, on 2/23.

12. (U) The Peruvians did not respond to the substance of the demarche, indicating that they had no/no expectations that a Hamas delegation would seek to visit Lima for the foreseeable future. They did inquire, however, regarding the status of USG assistance to Palestine and the USG position on comments by Alvaro De Soto, UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, that Israel's decision to withhold tax transfers to the Palestine Government might be contrary to the Oslo Peace Accords. Poloff subsequently provided Barreto with press statements on the issue from the Department's spokesman.

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